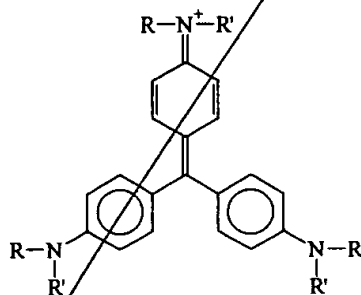


## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of purging malignant cells from a mixture containing malignant and non-malignant cells, the method comprising:

(a) contacting the mixture with a compound selected from the group consisting of:

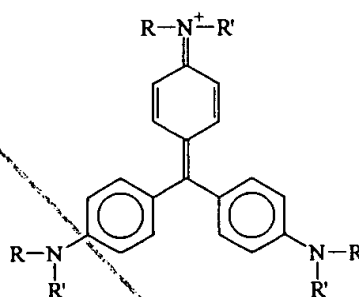


wherein each R and R' is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and  $C_1$ - $C_6$  linear or branched alkyl;

- (b) exposing the mixture from step (a) to radiation of a suitable wavelength to photoactivate the compound, thereby inducing death of malignant cells in the mixture.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein in step (a), the mixture is contacted with a compound wherein each R and R' are methyl.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the mixture comprises bone marrow cells.

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C<sup>1</sup>
4. The method of Claim 3, wherein the bone marrow cells are cells taken from a patient suffering from leukemia, disseminated multiple myeloma, or lymphoma.
5. The method of Claim 3, wherein the bone marrow cells are human bone marrow cells.
6. A method of killing cancer cells or inhibiting growth of cancer cells, *in vitro*, *in vivo*, or *ex vivo*, the method comprising:

- (a) contacting the cancer cells with a compound selected from the group consisting of:



wherein each R and R' is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> linear or branched alkyl;

- (b) exposing the cancer cells from step (a) to radiation of a suitable wavelength to photoactivate the compound, whereby cancer cell death or cancer cell growth inhibition results.

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7. The method of Claim 6, wherein in step (a), the cancer cells are contacted with the compound *in vitro*.

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8. The method of Claim 6, wherein in step (a), the cancer cells are contacted with the compound *in vivo*.
9. The method of Claim 6, wherein in step (a), the cancer cells are contacted with the compound *ex vivo*.
10. The method of Claim 6, wherein in step (a), the cancer cells are contacted with a compound wherein each R and R' is methyl.

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